

RE: CMP Project Update call-in March 19**Kern, Mark** <kern.mark@epa.gov>

Tue 2/12/2019 4:57 PM

To: Marsh, Michael <marsh.mike@epa.gov>; Alafat, Beth <alafat.beth@epa.gov>; LeClair, Jacqueline <Leclair.Jackie@epa.gov>; Timmermann, Timothy <Timmermann.Timothy@epa.gov>

Here is what I have from my weekly notes over the last year or two. I will put the file on your desk, what little there is. I have never been to a meeting on this one. But I did quickly review a draft document over a year ago that had many holes and gaps. Otherwise everything I have has been from asking the Corps (Jay).

7/31/2018

Central Maine Power (CMP) Maine The Corps of Engineers has informed EPA that while an application has been submitted by CMP, many gaps remain. A third-party peer review of the application on behalf of ME DEP found a bunch of inaccuracies on the delineations and tabulations of the impacts. The Corps suspects that they are still months away from any kind of Public Notice. Since the demise of the Northern Pass project in NH, this project has been on a fast track to take its place. While most of the proposed corridor would abut existing transmission lines, 28% of the corridor would be on a new alignment, very similar to the Northern Pass proposal.

12/18/2017

Central Maine Power (CMP) Maine The Corps of Engineers forwarded to EPA an early phase document to construct a 1,200 MW transmission line for 145 miles from Canada to New England. There are no estimates for impacts in the document drafted by Burns and McDonnell. It appears that CMP is waiting to see if they are likely to be selected in the request for proposals before they do more detailed work. While most of the proposed corridor would abut existing transmission lines, 28% of the corridor would be on a new alignment. In an email to the Corps, Mark Kern of EPA recommended that the applicant consider burial options along these new alignments. Usually the best options for burial would be along existing highways, where the landscape has been altered.

-----Original Message-----

From: Marsh, Michael**Sent:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 2:24 PM**To:** Alafat, Beth <alafat.beth@epa.gov>; Kern, Mark <kern.mark@epa.gov>; LeClair, Jacqueline <Leclair.Jackie@epa.gov>; Timmermann, Timothy <Timmermann.Timothy@epa.gov>**Subject:** RE: CMP Project Update call-in March 19

Mark - Please forward or cc me on pertinent information on CMP project so I can get up to speed.

Thanks,

Mike

-----Original Message-----

From: Alafat, Beth

Sent: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 11:59 AM

To: Kern, Mark <kern.mark@epa.gov>; LeClair, Jacqueline <Leclair.Jackie@epa.gov>; Timmermann, Timothy <Timmermann.Timothy@epa.gov>; Marsh, Michael <marsh.mike@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: CMP Project Update call-in March 19

Ok. Thanks Mark. Can you send along anything the Corps provides?

-----Original Message-----

From: Kern, Mark

Sent: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 11:55 AM

To: LeClair, Jacqueline <Leclair.Jackie@epa.gov>; Timmermann, Timothy <Timmermann.Timothy@epa.gov>; Marsh, Michael <marsh.mike@epa.gov>; Alafat, Beth <alafat.beth@epa.gov>

Subject: FW: CMP Project Update call-in March 19

Hi folks,

Since the demise of the Northern Pass project in NH, this one in Maine appears to be next in line for getting power down in southern NE.

CMP is getting together with the Corps and FWS to talk about endangered species issues on March 19. At the end of the meeting they plan to have an update on the project that we can call into. Not sure about the time yet.

Most of the work on this one will likely happen after I am off in Bora Bora or some cool place. So, Jackie and I briefly spoke with Mike about taking this one on. I will pass on anything I hear.

Cheers, Mark

-----Original Message-----

From: Clement, Jay L CIV USARMY CENAE (US) <Jay.L.Clement@usace.army.mil>

Sent: Monday, February 11, 2019 8:44 AM

To: Kern, Mark <kern.mark@epa.gov>

Cc: Mahaney, Wende <wende_mahaney@fws.gov>

Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] Re: [EXTERNAL] NECEC Project Update

I'm thinking call in Mark. As noted, I've asked CMP to put together a fact sheet of sorts to bring you guys up to speed on project impacts, mitigation, timeline, etc. All of this has been somewhat of a moving target up until now.

Jay

-----Original Message-----

From: Kern, Mark [<mailto:kern.mark@epa.gov>]
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2019 8:20 AM
To: Clement, Jay L CIV USARMY CENAE (US) <Jay.L.Clement@usace.army.mil>
Cc: Mahaney, Wende <wende_mahaney@fws.gov>
Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] Re: [EXTERNAL] NECEC Project Update

Hi Jay,

I am trying to get a read on if EPA should try to be at this meetings or call in for it. Is it mostly a ESA meeting, with a bit of time on project summary and mitigation ideas at the end?

Let me know what you think.

Thanks, Mark

-----Original Message-----

From: Clement, Jay L CIV USARMY CENAE (US) <Jay.L.Clement@usace.army.mil>
Sent: Thursday, February 07, 2019 6:29 PM
To: Wende_Mahaney@fws.gov
Cc: Goodwin, Mark <magoodwin@burnsmcd.com>; Mirabile, Gerry J. (Gerry.Mirabile@cmpco.com) <Gerry.Mirabile@cmpco.com>; Kern, Mark <kern.mark@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] Re: [EXTERNAL] NECEC Project Update

OK Wende, all three of those days are open for me. Perhaps Mark and Gerry can pick what works best for them. If something opens up between now and then for you guys, let me know and I'll try and scramble the CMP team to meet that. Sooner is probably better relative to initiating consultation.

Although the meeting scheduling focuses on ESA things, I do want to meet or at least conference with you and Wende as soon as possible to update you on project planning, impacts and mitigation. I've asked the CMP team to prepare a short project update sheet with tables as necessary to you won't feel the need to wade through a lot of background info that has shifted around a lot since you were last exposed to the project. Like I said, I'd like to do that before this ESA meeting but if necessary, see if you might be available on the dates listed below.

Thanks!

Jay

-----Original Message-----

From: Mahaney, Wende [mailto:wende_mahaney@fws.gov]
Sent: Thursday, February 7, 2019 8:49 AM
To: McCollough, Mark <mark_mccollough@fws.gov>
Cc: Clement, Jay L CIV USARMY CENAE (US) <Jay.L.Clement@usace.army.mil>
Subject: Re: [Non-DoD Source] Re: [EXTERNAL] NECEC Project Update

Jay - Nix March 13 from the list of possible meeting dates please. Anna wants to attend the meeting

and the 13th is out for her. So 19, 21, and 22 are still on the table for USFWS.

Thanks. Wende

Wende S. Mahaney, C.W.B.
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Maine Field Office
P.O. Box A (mailing address)
306 Hatchery Road (physical address)
East Orland, Maine 04431
Telephone: (207) 902-1569 (direct line)
Fax: (207) 902-1588
Cellular Phone: 207-944-2991

On Thu, Feb 7, 2019 at 7:29 AM McCollough, Mark <mark_mccollough@fws.gov>
<mailto:mark_mccollough@fws.gov> > wrote:

Jay and Wende: March 13, 19, 21, and 22 are good for me.

Mark

On Wed, Feb 6, 2019 at 1:27 PM Mahaney, Wende <wende_mahaney@fws.gov>
<mailto:wende_mahaney@fws.gov> > wrote:

The following week all Mark and I have is March 13. March 19, 21, and 22 are open.

And fix Mark's email address if you haven't already! You have his last name misspelled.
Common mistake.....

Wende S. Mahaney, C.W.B.
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Maine Field Office
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On Wed, Feb 6, 2019 at 12:32 PM Clement, Jay L CIV USARMY CENAE (US) <Jay.L.Clement@usace.army.mil> <<mailto:Jay.L.Clement@usace.army.mil>> > wrote:

Away that last week in Feb and the week after is tied up with harbormasters. Probably the week after?

-----Original Message-----

From: Mahaney, Wende [mailto:wende_mahaney@fws.gov]
<mailto:wende_mahaney@fws.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 6, 2019 12:29 PM
To: Clement, Jay L CIV USARMY CENAE (US) <Jay.L.Clement@usace.army.mil>
<<mailto:Jay.L.Clement@usace.army.mil>> >
Cc: mark_mccullough@fws.gov <mailto:mark_mccullough@fws.gov>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: [EXTERNAL] NECEC Project Update

How about February 26, 27 or 28? That's the soonest I have time. The following week looks pretty open as well except for Monday, March 4. Mark's calendar seems open on these days as well but he can chime in.

Dug out? Haha. That's funny! We'd have to have the rest of the world go on a 5 week pause for that to happen! But we're doing the best we can. At least my computer appears to be fully functional this week. That is definitely helping me.

Wende S. Mahaney, C.W.B.
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
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On Wed, Feb 6, 2019 at 11:43 AM Clement, Jay L CIV USARMY CENAE (US) <Jay.L.Clement@usace.army.mil> <<mailto:Jay.L.Clement@usace.army.mil>>
<<mailto:Jay.L.Clement@usace.army.mil>> <<mailto:Jay.L.Clement@usace.army.mil>> > > wrote:

Hopefully you two have sort of dug out from the furlough. It's probably time to sit down again with TRC & CMP to review where we are with ESA consultation for the project. What do your schedules look like for the next few weeks?

Jay

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Mark McCollough, Ph.D.
Endangered Species Specialist
US Fish and Wildlife Service

Maine Fish and Wildlife Service Complex

Ecological Services

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